

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State/Territory: Washington

ELIGIBILITY CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

Procedures for Scheduling and Conduct of Standard Surveys

The State has in effect the following procedures for the scheduling and conduct of standard surveys to assure that it has taken all reasonable steps to avoid giving notice.

1. Survey schedules are decentralized and are directed by a local district manager. This results in the fewest possible persons being aware of when surveys are scheduled.
2. The State Fire Marshall, who is responsible for the Life Safety Code survey, is not notified in advance of which facilities are scheduled for surveys. The State Fire Marshall is advised of the need for a Life Safety Code survey only after the health survey has begun. Therefore, the Life Safety Code survey cannot provide advance notice of an upcoming health survey.
3. All new surveyors are given an orientation to the survey program. This orientation includes information on the prohibition of providing an advance notice of a survey. This prohibition is based not only on federal requirements, but also on state law. (Revised Code of Washington 18.51.210(2) provides "Any public employee giving such advance notice in violation of this section shall be suspended from all duties without pay for a period of not less than five nor more than fifteen days.)

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